

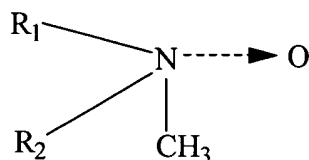
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

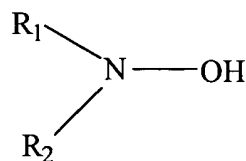
Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1) (Original) A blend useful as an additive in polyolefin polymers for minimizing the effects of radiation on the physical properties of said polymers, which comprises a hindered amine light stabilizer and at least one material selected from the group consisting of: i) amine oxides exemplified by the formula:



in which R₁ and R₂ are each independently selected from C₁₀ to C₂₄ alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl groups, whether straight-chain, branched, cyclic, saturated, or unsaturated; and ii) hydroxylamines exemplified by the formula:

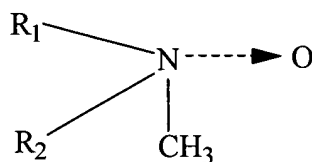


in which R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from C_{10} to C_{24} alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl groups, whether straight-chain, branched, cyclic, saturated, or unsaturated.

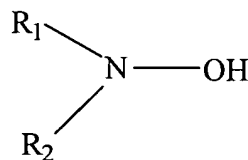
2) (Currently Amended) A polymerized olefin polymer composition comprising: ~~the blend of claim 1~~

a polymer, and

a blend that comprises a hindered amine light stabilizer and at least one material selected from the group consisting of: i) amine oxides exemplified by the formula:



in which R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from C_{10} to C_{24} alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl groups, whether straight-chain, branched, cyclic, saturated, or unsaturated; and ii) hydroxylamines exemplified by the formula:



in which R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from C_{10} to C_{24} alkyl, aryl, or alkylaryl groups, whether straight-chain, branched, cyclic, saturated, or unsaturated.

~~present in any amount between about 500 ppm and 5000 ppm by weight based on the total weight of said polymer.~~

3) (Original) An olefin polymer according to claim 2 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of: propylene homopolymers, propylene co-polymers, ethylene homopolymers, and ethylene co-polymers, wherein when said olefin polymer comprises a co-polymer of either propylene or ethylene, said co-polymer is a co-polymer which was formed in the presence of at least one monomer comprising a C₂ to C₈ mono-olefin.

4) (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~either of claims 2 or 3~~ claim 2 which further comprises a sorbitol-based clarifier present in any amount between 500 ppm and 5000 ppm by weight based on the total weight of said polymer.

5) (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~either of claims 2, 3, or 4~~ claim 2 which further comprises an inorganic clarifier present in any amount between 500 ppm and 5000 ppm by weight based on the total weight of said polymer.

6) (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~either of claims 2, 3, 4, or 5~~ claim 2 which further comprises an inorganic nucleator present in any amount between 250 ppm and 2500 ppm by weight based on the total weight of said polymer.

7) (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any foregoing~~ claim 2 wherein an amine oxide ~~as specified in claim 1~~ is present, and wherein the ratio of amine oxide to hindered amine light stabilizer is any ratio in the range of between about 1 : 0.2 to 1 : 5.

8) (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~any foregoing~~ claim 2 wherein a hydroxyl amine ~~as specified in claim 1~~ is present, and wherein the ratio of hydroxyl amine to hindered amine light stabilizer is any ratio in the range of between about 1 : 0.5 to 1 : 5.

9) (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~[[3]]~~2 further comprising a neutralizer.
~~wherein the neutralizer is either a hydrotalcite or a metallic stearate.~~

10) (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture ~~selected from the group consisting of: syringes, pouches, films, tubes, labware and a medical kit, which article~~ that is fabricated from a material comprising a composition according to claim ~~[[3]]~~2.

11) (Currently Amended) A process for providing a sterilized article of manufacture which comprises the steps of:

- a) providing an article according to claim 10; and
- b) exposing said article to a source of radiation selected from the group consisting of: gamma radiation and electron beam radiation~~[[,]]~~.

~~wherein the total amount of radiation to which said article is exposed is no greater than about five megarads.~~

12) (Original) An article made by a process according to claim 11 wherein the propylene polymer is predominantly comprised of a random copolymer of propylene and ethylene, which random co-polymer contains between about 0.5 % to about 8 % of ethylene by weight based on the total weight of the polymer.

13) (New) A composition according to claim 1 wherein an amine oxide is present, and wherein the ratio of amine oxide to hindered amine light stabilizer is any ratio in the range of between about 1 : 0.2 to 1 : 5.

14) (New) A composition according to claim 1 wherein a hydroxyl amine is present, and wherein the ratio of hydroxyl amine to hindered amine light stabilizer is any ratio in the range of between about 1 : 0.5 to 1 : 5.

15) (New) A composition according to claim 2 wherein the blend is present in any amount between about 500 ppm and 5000 ppm by weight based on the total weight of said polymer.

16) (New) A composition according to claim 9 wherein the neutralizer comprises a hydrotalcite or a metallic stearate.

17) (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 10 wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of: a syringe, a pouch, a film, a tube, a labware and a medical kit.

18) (New) A process according to claim 11 wherein exposing said article to a source of radiation comprises exposing said article to a total amount of radiation which is no greater than about five megarads.